

FOR
Over Thirty Years
Coffee's
Leading Newspaper

VOLUME XXXII.

THE ELBA CLIPPER

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1929.

FOR
Latest News of Interest
Read
The Elba Clipper

NUMBER 41

Elba Is Fast Recovering From Great Flood

Business and Residential Sections Being Rebuilt

Citizens Return To Their Homes. "A Bigger And Better Elba" Is The Slogan Adopted For Rebuilding and In The Work Of Rehabilitation

Although the beautiful little city of Elba was completely inundated to a depth of from 15 to 20 feet by the flood waters of Pea River, White Water and Beaver Dam Creeks on March 14 and 15, with some business houses and homes completely wrecked, others so badly damaged that rebuilding seemed an almost impossible task, today the situation is rapidly improving and the work of rebuilding and cleaning up is going steadily forward and every day some improvement can be seen.

It is not an easy task which citizens of the town face, but each and everyone is going about the work with determination to make this a "Bigger and Better Elba." The town will be rebuilt.

It would be impossible for us to give, at this time, an account of the conditions that prevailed throughout the town during that period from Thursday morning, March 14th, until Sunday, March 17th. The entire population of the town was taken into warehouses. Very few people expected the water to rise enough to cause any property damage, much less endanger the lives of the citizens of the town.

Only once in the history of the town has the water risen to a height to cause the people to leave their homes. This was in the year 1888. Many of the older citizens experienced what was then called a flood. Again in 1924 there was high water at Elba. Backwater from White Water Creek crept out over portions of the town. It reached crest square and was about two and one-half feet deep in places at that time. But little damage resulted.

Thus it is no wonder that the people were trapped in the town by the deluge of water, which rose at such a rapid rate that it was impossible to escape. Many sought safety in two-story buildings, where it was possible to reach them, others felt safe to stay at their homes, later finding it necessary to move to attic, and in some cases to the roof.

The harrowing experiences of many of those who were without food and water for forty-eight to seventy-two hours, will never be known. Others have told their stories and some of these will be published at a later date.

The rescue of many by those brave men and boys from every town and section around Elba, are also subjects which will go down in history. To attempt these rescues was hazardous, with currents swirling in every direction and with streets literally covered with every kind of obstacle.

But forgetting self, these heroes made the attempt and many came near losing their lives. Finally all were rescued and every citizen of the town was safe, except two colored men who lost their lives—one trying to rescue another person and the other, almost blind, who leaped off a box car and was drowned.

To see the destruction and damage caused by the raging waters during the flood, causes one familiar with the town, the country around and the streams, to wonder how it could be possible. Brick structures were demolished, the walls crumbling, fronts were broken in and swept away. Not a business building or home or other building in the town proper escaped the fury of the main water. Some of these are total wrecks, only the foundations being left.

At a meeting of the citizens of Elba last Wednesday, Henry M. Baker, National Director of Disaster Relief of the American Red Cross, presided. For ourselves, we frankly admit that while we have had a cheerful outlook, we never imagined that there could be so very much of genuine generosity as has been shown in connection with Elba's misfortune.

Many things that have happened go beyond our feeble efforts at narration.

As the waters came out over Elba men and boys of course worked to get their loved ones to safe places; but their work was not confined to them, but extended to all who were in danger or dis-astored and who could be reached.

And then our neighbors, who had no loved ones in danger, and whose only motives were an unselfish, heroic passion to relieve distress and thwart the death angel, came and did rescue work which entitles their names to be written in letters of gold on Fame's Roster of Heroes.

Many of them brought their own boats. But there were other boats owned by those who could not come but loaned their boats. This was not so noteworthy as the work of those who acted as boatmen, but in a material way it was important, since most boat owners place high value on their boats.

Not a few of the boats that were used were wrecked.

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The people of the State and many in other states have been generous in financial aid, their gifts having been greater than had ever been known on a similar call.

The newspapers of the State, especially the dailies, handled the flood in news and editorial columns in a manner which was highly sympathetic, and to them is due much of the success that has attended efforts to raise relief funds. Some of the reporters first abandoned newsgathering to aid the galaxy of heroes in rescue work.

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Uncle Sam did not let the State bear the burdens and dangers alone.

Lifeline-saving commands most applause and admiration from us and the world, for which we need give no explanation. Yet we do not say that the same noble impulses actuated all who have helped in our great disaster? We do not undertake to discriminate in our gratitude. We do earnestly wish that each and every one of God's dear children who have helped much or little might know that we are grateful.

We wish that every generous soul to whom we owe so much might know of the numbers of times that Elbians, not given to emotion, have been shown by kindly voices and mistletoe eyes that they are touched by what we may, with St. Luke, call "No little kindness."

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RED CROSS WILL GIVE GARDEN SEED

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MATHIS BUYS TELEPHONE EXCHANGE HE WILL REBUILD

Announcement was made last week that Mr. P. G. Mathis, Jr., has bought the entire holdings of the Elba Telephone Company from its former owners, Messrs. D. J. Brooks and C. P. Hayes.

Mr. Mathis, who for several years has been superintendent of the local Power plant, in the future will devote all his time to the telephone business.

Mr. Mathis has already been started on rebuilding the telephone office which was damaged during the flood. Mr. Mathis stated to the Clipper representative the first of the week that he will install a new and modern exchange system all over the town, and otherwise improve the local plant.

This work will be done as soon as possible and it will not be many weeks before we again will have telephone service.

A glow room has been secured on the second floor of the May building, where food and clothing will be distributed, beginning Thursday from 2:00 to 5:00 P. M., to people having requisitions. These requisitions can be obtained from case workers in the Court House.

300 packages of garden seed are available for distribution at the office of the Red Cross. These seed are to be given to people in the rural sections as well as people in town.

C. H. McFarland is Area Director for Elba and Coffee County. Miss M. Mathis is in charge of the food.

Sophie P. Poole is supervisor of case workers. The office hours are from 8:00 to 5:30 daily.

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GOVERNOR GRAVES

No doubt many achievements of the present State Administration will be commended. But what the State did at Elba and the other flood-stricken communities was as unique as it was commendable. The Governor threw many State departments into action, and without rest or sleep he stayed in active command until the crest of the emergency was over. Then he made two trips to the stricken communities, one by air and the other by auto, in the effort to get first hand information for presentation to Congress. His trip to Washington did not end his activities, which continue and will continue as long as he can help.

Governor Graves is a strong, vigorous executive and a great, warm-hearted gentleman. His prompt and capable helplessness at Elba and the other flooded communities was a splendid performance. We are grateful to our Governor and the State.

OUR TOWN NOT EASY

This is the first issue of the Clipper since that of March 14th, the day on which he town was visited by the highwater. Many of our readers did not see this issue, the papers having been lost. When we returned to Elba Wednesday morning, March 20th, we found what would seem to make an impossible task of cleaning up and cleaning out our shop. But we waded in and have been hard at it. The water reached a depth of 9 feet and 6 inches in the building, thus submerging everything in our plant.

Straightening up, repainting, buying new type and other equipment, cleaning mud from type presses, linotype, and other experiences of the last month have not been easy. But trying to get into this issue the things we ought to include in our market, such as in which we have no doubt fallen short. We have many interesting things to print, which could not be gotten up for this issue, but these will come later. In another week or so, we hope to have things running smoothly, and we ask the indulgence of our readers until conditions are again normal.

HEROES AND HEROISM

We people of Elba have suffered tremendously in a financial way. The small loss of life was gratifying. But we have had a remarkable experience. We have learned that the days of heroes have not passed. As glorified acts of cool fortitude as glorified the days of high water. Leonidas, Pythias, Sam Dale, Sergeant Jagger, Bell Boy, Nathan Hale, David Gideon, Molly Pitcher, and all that glorious company who have proven by their deeds just what real heroism is. We have seen them in the mud, rushing waters, and then met again and again through the terrifying hours of daylight and darkness, and daylight and darkness yet again. Not a few of these noble hearted men had any direct interest in the lives they saved. Just a man, a woman, a child in danger of death. More impersonal and disinterested heroism could hardly be thought of.

We are not ungrateful to give names, because in so doing we would not doubt make omissions. These omissions would amount to nothing to those who we would honor, but they would give those whose lives were saved.

We know the world is not getting out. We know that modern America has not ceased to grow. MEN. We know men do live in who care and safety do not appeal when others are in peril. We have been witnesses of countless tests of daring. We have had the wonderful experience of seeing men act like Gods. Great as is our gratitude, it is excelled by our admiration for the noble rescuers with hearts of gold.

Hayley Milligan, of Newton, Ala., has been elected president of the 1920 class at Auburn. He served this same class as president during his sophomore and junior years in college.

P. M. Sparks, who graduated at Auburn in 1920, has invented a new electric transformer while doing graduate work at the University of Illinois. Sparks is from Cullman, Ala.

THEY MOTORED TO ELBA

From surrounding cities, some near, others not so near, and from the farms of this section, came the heroes and helpers of all sorts. Boats came on trucks and trailers, and some on horseback, and some on foot. The gasoline-driven vehicles covered an aggregate of several million miles in rescuing us and serving us afterwards. We are glad that the motor cars have been perfected and that so many generous people have owned them. To the many who have served with their cars we are grateful. Without their help the flood record would have been much more distressing.

Don May, a senior student in engineering at Auburn, invented an attachment for a photograph which will enable it to stay in any position. It has been patented and he hopes to place it on the market.

Population of the United States is now increasing at the rate of about 1,400,000 annually, according to the Bureau of Census at Washington. It means one new American every 23 seconds and one new Alabamian every ten minutes.

Building Material

ANYTHING YOU NEED IN THIS LINE, WE HAVE OR WILL GET IT FOR YOU. LET US KNOW YOUR WANTS.

F. H. Murphree & Company
MAY BUILDING

Cheap Feed

We will at all times carry a complete line of Feed Stuff. Can save you money on your feed, as we buy in car lots only. See us before you buy.

BOYD & CLARK
WEST ELBA

Our Drug Store Is Open---

with a new line of Drugs, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, Stationery, Etc. Our Soda Fountain is also open. Try the Drug Store first. Your patronage will be appreciated.

Peoples Drug Store

JIM WHITMAN, Mgr. MAY BUILDING

Back In Business

We are glad to announce to our friends and customers that we are open again and ready to serve you. We are in position to serve you Texaco Gas and oils, recharge your batteries, repair your car, and give you Tire service.

We thank all our patrons for their business in the past. Our losses were so heavy during the flood that we are forced to operate on a STRICTLY CASH basis. Your patronage will be appreciated.

Star Auto Co.

C. O. Miller, Prop. Elba, Ala.

THE ELBA CLIPPER

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1929.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

State Project 130
Dale-Coffey Counties.

Sealed bids will be received by the Highway Department of Alabama, at the office of the State Highway Department, Montgomery, Alabama, until 10 o'clock A. M., May 14th, 1929, and at that time publicly opened. The principal items of work are approximately as follows:

Class "A": 10,000 Pounds Reinforcing 32-000 P. R. M. Treated Timber, 350 Cu. Yds. Dry Bridge Excavation, 18,000 Lin. Ft. Treated Piling, 720 Lin. Ft. Galvanized Pipe Handrail, Plans and specifications are on file in the office of the State Highway Department at Montgomery, Alabama. Any additional information may be secured from the Highway Director, Montgomery, Alabama. The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

Certified check for One Thousand (\$1000.00) Dollars made payable to the Highway Director of Alabama must accompany each bid as evidence of the bidder's ability to execute the contract and give bond as required.

WOOLSEY FINNELL
April 25-May 2 Highway Director

Announcement

In 1928 a total of 21,493,124 motor vehicles were registered in the United States. This was a gain of 9.5 per cent over 1927, according to the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture. Of this number 269,519 were registered in Alabama, the vast majority of which were of the type known as "hot rods".

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, COBBE COUNTY.

Default having been made in the payment of the installment due November 1, 1928, on the debt secured by that certain mortgage deed, executed on the 1st day of March, 1926, by L. E. Payne and wife, Lila Payne, to the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, which said mortgage is recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, in Book of Mortgages 6-25, page 72, at said, the undersigned mortgagee, The Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, under and by virtue of the powers of sale and foreclosure contained in said mortgage, will, in foreclosure of said mortgage, offer for sale at auction for cash, in front of the courthouse door in Elba, Alabama, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on Saturday, May 11, 1929, the following described lands conveyed in said mortgage, to-wit:

The 1/2 of the SW 1/4, Section 15, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 11, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, containing 240 acres, more or less, in Coffee County, Alabama.

Said foreclosure sale will be made for the purpose of realizing the mortgage debt as provided for in said mortgage, together with the expense of sale, including printer's fee and a reasonable attorney's fee.

Done this, 11th day of April, 1929.

THE FEDERAL LAND BANK, OF NEW ORLEANS, Mortgagee.

W. M. Branson, Attorney for Mortgagee.

April 18-25-May 2

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, COFFEY COUNTY.

Default having been made in the payment of the debt secured by that certain mortgage deed, executed on the 1st day of February, 1926, by Thomas H. Smith to W. B. Polmar & Sons, Bankers, which said mortgage is recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, in Book of Mortgages 6-25, page 66, the undersigned mortgagee, W. B. Polmar & Sons, Bankers, under and by virtue of the powers of sale and foreclosure contained in said mortgage, will, in foreclosure of said mortgage, offer for sale at auction in front of the courthouse door in Elba, Alabama, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on Saturday, May 18th, 1929, the following described lands conveyed in said mortgage, to-wit:

The 1/2 of the NW 1/4, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 29, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, containing 240 acres, more or less, in Coffee County, Alabama.

Said foreclosure sale will be made for the purpose of realizing the mortgage debt as provided for in said mortgage, together with the expense of sale, including printer's fee and a reasonable attorney's fee.

Done this, 15th day of April, 1929.

W. B. POLMAR & SONS, Bankers, Mortgagee.

W. M. Branson, Attorney for Mortgagee.

1st day, April 18.

Announcement

In 1928 a total of 21,493,124 motor vehicles were registered in the United States. This was a gain of 9.5 per cent over 1927, according to the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture. Of this number 269,519 were registered in Alabama, the vast majority of which were of the type known as "hot rods".

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, COFFEY COUNTY.

Default having been made in the payment of the debt secured by that certain mortgage deed, executed on the 1st day of March, 1926, by L. E. Payne and wife, Lila Payne, to the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, which said mortgage is recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, in Book of Mortgages 6-25, page 72, at said, the undersigned mortgagee, The Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, under and by virtue of the powers of sale and foreclosure contained in said mortgage, will, in foreclosure of said mortgage, offer for sale at auction for cash, in front of the courthouse door in Elba, Alabama, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on Saturday, May 11, 1929, the following described lands conveyed in said mortgage, to-wit:

The 1/2 of the SW 1/4, Section 15, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 11, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, containing 240 acres, more or less, in Coffee County, Alabama.

Said foreclosure sale will be made for the purpose of realizing the mortgage debt as provided for in said mortgage, together with the expense of sale, including printer's fee and a reasonable attorney's fee.

Done this, 15th day of April, 1929.

W. B. POLMAR & SONS, Bankers, Mortgagee.

W. M. Branson, Attorney for Mortgagee.

1st day, April 18.

Announcement

In 1928 a total of 21,493,124 motor vehicles were registered in the United States. This was a gain of 9.5 per cent over 1927, according to the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture. Of this number 269,519 were registered in Alabama, the vast majority of which were of the type known as "hot rods".

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, COFFEY COUNTY.

Default having been made in the payment of the debt secured by that certain mortgage deed, executed on the 1st day of March, 1926, by L. E. Payne and wife, Lila Payne, to the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, which said mortgage is recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, in Book of Mortgages 6-25, page 72, at said, the undersigned mortgagee, The Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, under and by virtue of the powers of sale and foreclosure contained in said mortgage, will, in foreclosure of said mortgage, offer for sale at auction for cash, in front of the courthouse door in Elba, Alabama, within the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, on Saturday, May 11, 1929, the following described lands conveyed in said mortgage, to-wit:

The 1/2 of the SW 1/4, Section 15, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 11, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, containing 240 acres, more or less, in Coffee County, Alabama.

Said foreclosure sale will be made for the purpose of realizing the mortgage debt as provided for in said mortgage, together with the expense of sale, including printer's fee and a reasonable attorney's fee.

Done this, 15th day of April, 1929.

W. B. POLMAR & SONS, Bankers, Mortgagee.

W. M. Branson, Attorney for Mortgagee.

1st day, April 18.

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The 1/2 of the SW 1/4, Section 15, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 11, the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, containing 240 acres, more or less, in Coffee County, Alabama.

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